GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Revenue - Endowments Department – Sri S.S.Chandra Sekhar Azad, Former Executive Officer of Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada – Certain irregularities Committed - Disciplinary action initiated – Charges Framed - Inquiry Officer appointed - Inquiry report submitted -Charges not proved - Further action dropped – Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-VII) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 353 Dated: 25-04-2025

Read the following:-

1. From the GA (V&E) Dept., Vigilance Report, No.38(C.No.685/V&E/D1/2016 &1241/V & E/D1/2015, dated 22-05-2017.
2. G.O.Rt.No.483, Revenue (Vigilance-IV) Dept, dt.12.04.2018
3. Written Statement of Defence of Sri S.S.Chandra Sekhar Azad, former EO of Devasthanam (FAC) , Dated:14.05.2019
4. G.O.Rt.No.1083, Revenue (Vigilance-IV) Dept, dt.31.10.2019.
5. G.O.Rt.No.1084, Revenue (Vigilance-IV) Dept, dt.31.10.2019
6. Enquiry Report No.20023/4/2017, Dt:11.02.2020 of Inquiry Authority.
7. Explanation of Sri S.S.Chandra Sekhar Azad, former EO of Devasthanam
8. G.O.Rt.No.392, Revenue (Vigilance-IV) Dept., dt.05.07.2021
9. Letter of Dr.M.Hari Jawaharlal, I.A.S., Commissioner, Endowments Department, A.P., Vijayawada, Lr.No.V1/20023/4/2017, Dated:16.12.2021.

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ORDER:

Whereas, in the reference 1st read above, the Director General, General Administration (Vigilance & Enforcement) Department has submitted a report stating that certain irregularities have been identified in the administration of the temple while working as Joint Commissioner & Executive Officer of Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada and requested to take disciplinary action against the concerned officials. Sri S.S.Chandrasekhar Azad, former Executive Officer of the Devasthanam is one of the official facing allegations.

2. And whereas after examining the above Vigilance Report, Government have accepted the recommendations therein, accordingly, initiated disciplinary action against Sri S.S.Chandra Sekhar Azad in the reference 2nd read above and framed 2(two) charges against him that (i) he failed to supervise the maintenance of cashbooks by the Account Section, shown the balance of Rs.3,46,580.90 Ps as cash on hand in cash book, which is not physically available with Accounts Section staff; (ii) he failed to take action on the contractors, who supplied substandard provisions that deviated from tender norms and entered into agreements with regular suppliers namely M/s Ravi Kiran Traders and M/s Sai Manikanta Agencies in supply of provisions to Devasthnam.

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3. And whereas Sri S.S.Chandra Sekhar Azad has submitted his Written Statement of defence, vide reference 3rd read above and as the same is not convincing, the Government have appointed Smt. Dr.M.Padma, I.A.S., as Inquiring Authority and Sri Chandra Kumar, Addl. Commr. O/o CED as presenting Officer vide reference 4th and 5th read above.

4. The Inquiring Authority has submitted her report vide reference 6th read above observing that in respect of first charge, the financial discrepancy of Rs.3,46,580.90 ps occurred between 2010-2012 which existed long before the officer's tenure. The officer was the EO of Subject Devasthanam only from 11.03.2016 to 06.07.2016. He took immediate steps to reconcile the accounts. The succeeding E.O. dropped the charges against the accounts staff, confirming no financial mischief. Additionally, with regard to 2nd charge, the IA has opined that the officer was following Government directives for temple development. The Monitoring Committee (formed in 2015) had already verified provisions, and the three flagged items were not primary food supplies, whereas major food items like rice, tamarind, and red gram dal met standards. The authorized lab report dt.01.03.2019 indicated the vulnerability of the three provision items was due to weather conditions only, as there is no cold storage or food testing lab at the temple, making it difficult to anyone, including the temple's monitoring committee, to identify. The inspection was conducted without his involvement, and no official report was shared with him.

5. The Inquiring Authority in her findings reported that the charges framed against Sri S.S. Chandra Sekhar Azad, may not be pressed for the irregularities committed while working as Executive Officer, Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada.

6. Whereas, after examining the findings of the Inquiry officer, Government have observed that the findings of Inquiry Authority are not specific in this case. The Inquiring Authority was retired from service on superannuation on 30.04.2020. In these circumstances, Govt., in reference 8th read above, have remit the disciplinary case to the then Spl.Commissioner, Endowments as Inquiry Authority with a direction to submit the report with specific findings within one month. Since the Spl.Commissioner /Inquiring Authority has also been transferred within onemonth, the succeeding Commissioner has received the Vigilance report, the charges, defence submitted by the charged officer, report of previous enquiry officer (Dr.M.Padma, IAS) and other connected records and submitted a report in the reference 9th cited, concluding that the charges framed against CO are vague, unfounded and recommended to drop further action against him.

7. After careful examination of the matter, the Government have accepted the findings of Inquiring Authority report submitted vide reference 6th read above and the recommendations of the Commissioner, Endowment Department as detailed in reference 9th read above and decided to drop further action against the charged officer Sri S.S.ChandraShekar Azad, former Executive Officer of Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada.

8. Accordingly, Government hereby order to drop further action against Sri S.S.Chandra Shekar Azad, former Executive Officer of Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada in this matter.

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9. The Commissioner of Endowments, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada shall take further necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G.JAYALAKSHMI
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT &
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (ENDOWMENTS) (FAC)

To
Sri S.S.Chandrasekhar Azad,
former Executive Officer (FAC), Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam, Vijayawada ***through*** the Commissioner of Endowments, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
The Commissioner of Endowments, Andhra Pradesh, A.P., Vijayawada.

Copy to :
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission,
Secretariat Buildings, Velagapudi, Guntur Dist.
The Director General, General Administration (V&E) Department, Vijayawada.
The P.S to Hon'ble Minister (Endowment)
The P.S to Spl.Chief Secretary to Govt., Revenue Department
SC

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER